

Welcome to James River State Park where ‘History Flows Through It’. The waters of the James have shaped the past and will shape the future of life in this area. The Monacan Indians, the earliest-known settlers, hunted, fished, and traveled the river. The Cabell family settled along the river in the early 1700’s, cultivating the rich soils of the floodplain and shipping produce down river to Richmond. The batteau was invented and the Kanawha Canal was built to make travel and shipping on the river easier. The James River brought humans to this area, provided for their needs, and helped them build a future.

Today, the park provides a place to experience the beauty and power of the James River. Boat and fish the rivers’ flowing waters. Watch the wildlife that makes its home along the river. Camp along the banks of the river. Travel the trails through the fields and foothills along the river and experience breath-taking vistas from the rivers’ bluffs. The park is open year-round so that all four seasons can be enjoyed on the James River.

**While at James River State Park...**  
We hope you’ll take the opportunity to visit some nearby scenic and historical attractions. Four more Virginia State Parks are just a short drive away. Bear Creek Lake State Park, Holliday Lake State Park, Sailor’s Creek Historic State Park and Twin Lakes State Park offer a wide assortment of relaxing recreational activities.

- Campground information**
- Camping is allowed only in designated campgrounds and only after following the proper check-in procedure. Payment for site after set-up information is posted at the campground.
  - Registration for a state park campsite must be completed by a member of the camping party 18 years of age or older. This person accepts responsibility for the remainder of the camping party.
  - Campsites are designed to be used by a maximum of six people or one family.

- One motor vehicle, in addition to the camping unit, is permitted per site. Only the camping unit listed on the campsite application is permitted.
- State park campgrounds are intended for the use of the traveling public and not for extended or seasonal camping. The maximum camping stay per park is 14 days in any 30-day period.
- Check-out time is 3 p.m. No camping units, vehicles or personal property may be left or allowed to remain on the site after the termination of the permitted camping period.
- Quiet hours posted in all state park campgrounds must be observed.
- Fires must be confined to grills, campstoves or designated fire rings.
- Pets are allowed in state park campgrounds. A fee will be charged for each pet per night.
- At the time of registration, campers must inform the park staff of the names of visitors expected to arrive at the campsite. Visitors will not be admitted to the camping area unless so identified. Visitors are permitted between 8 a.m. and 10 p.m.

**Frequent visitors save money**  
Annual passes for parking and swimming offer the frequent visitor greater savings. Stop by the park office for details.

**Virginia State Parks Reservation Center**  
To receive more information on Virginia State Parks or to make a cabin or campsite reservation, call 1-800-933-PARK (or in the Richmond calling area 225-3867).

**Join us in the parks – DCR’s Volunteer Program**  
DCR offers diverse opportunities for volunteers in most state parks and natural areas throughout the state. Inquire at the park office for details.

**For more information, contact:**  
James River State Park  
Route 1 Box 787  
Gladstone, VA 24553  
(804) 933-4355

You can also visit our home page at [www.dcr.virginia.gov](http://www.dcr.virginia.gov)

# VIRGINIA


## STATE PARKS


### James River State Park Guide


Buckingham, Virginia


Virginia State Parks provide  
**A Natural Legacy**  
of outdoor activities and programs. They are an important part of DCR’s efforts to promote a strong conservation ethic. These efforts ensure that the best of Virginia’s natural resources will be protected and available for future generations.


Welcome to James River State Park, one of Virginia's newest State Parks. The land for this park was purchased with funds from the 1992 General Obligation Bond. Located six miles down river from Bent Creek, the park features three miles of river frontage and 1,500 acres of rolling farm meadows, quiet forest, three fishing ponds, beautiful vistas, boat launches, rest-rooms, primitive camp sites and picnic shelters. To make your visit safer and more pleasant, we ask that you observe the following regulations.


- 


Public use or display of alcoholic beverages is prohibited.
- 


Please help keep the park clean by placing litter in the proper containers.
- 


Pets are permitted in all state parks, but they must be kept on a leash or in an enclosed area at all times.
- 


Please use only dead wood from the ground for fire wood.
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Please camp in designated areas only.
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Please observe state fishing and hunting regulations and all posted information.
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Boats are not allowed in the Green Hill or Taylor ponds.
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Please observe park boundaries and stay off private property.
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Use and park motorized vehicles only in designated areas.
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Beware of currents, uneven river bottom, and sharp objects in the James River.


- 


**Amphitheatre**
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**Boat Ramp**
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**Campground**
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**Dump Station**
- 


**Hiking Trail**
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**Information (permit required)**
- 


**Night Fishing**
- 


**Parking**
- 


**Pay Phone**
- 

**Picnic Area**
- 

**Picnic Shelter**
- 

**Primitive Campsite**
- 

**Restroom**
- 

**Scenic Point**
- 

**Visitor Center**

